

Government of India has invited bids from foreign and Indian private companies in 72 blocks - 39 offshore and 3 onshore - under the Fourth Round of bidding. The last date for receipt of bids is 29.2.1992.

- (c) (i) In 1980, 32 blocks - 17 offshore and 15 onshore - were offered under first Round of bidding. One Production Sharing Contract with M/s. Chevron of USA was signed. No oil was discovered.
- (ii) In 1982, 50 Blocks, 42 offshore and 8 onshore blocks were offered under Second Round of bidding. But no Production Sharing Contract was signed.
- (iii) In 1986, 27 offshore blocks were offered under Third Round of bids. Production Sharing Contracts for nine blocks were signed with five foreign oil companies from USA, Netherlands, Dubai and Australia. No hydrocarbons have been discovered.

Water Resources Projects of Global Infrastructure fund

3483. SHRI VIJAY NAVAL PATIL: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the manner in which India propose to participate in the Water Resources projects of Global Infrastructure fund;

(b) the details of benefits likely to be

derived therefrom; and

(c) the manner in which India propose to raise funds for this participation?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (c). India propose to participate in Kosi and Tipaimukh high dam water resources projects under Global Infrastructure Fund. Nepal and India will benefit from Kosi project and India and Bangladesh from Tipaimukh Project. The Manner of funding for the projects has not been decided.

Coal deposits

3484. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has proven reserves of Prime coking coal;

(b) if so, the estimated quantity thereof;

(c) the specific steps taken so far to make use of this large deposit of coking coal; and

(d) the quantum of such coal exploited

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S.B. NYAMA GOUDA): (a) and (b). As on 1.1.91, Geological Survey of India (GSI) have estimated a total of 23,331.72 million tonnes of coking coal reserves up-to a depth of 600 meters and in seams having thickness up-to 0.5 meters. The category-wise details of the coal reserves are given as under :-

(in million tonnes)

	<i>Proved</i>	<i>Indicated</i>	<i>Inferred</i>	<i>Total</i>
i) Prime Coking	3713.00	326.00	-	4039.00
ii) Medium Coking	8889.37	8327.99	801.50	18018.86
iii) Semi-Coking	343.61	614.93	315.32	1273.86
Total	12,945.98	9,268.92	1,116.82	23,331.72